TL6520

EAST TIMOR UPDATE

April 2000

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United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor
Office of Communication and Public Information
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ACRONYMS USED IN THIS PUBLICATION

ADB	Asian Development Bank
AusAID	Australian Agency for International Development
CARE	CARE International
CIVPOL	UN Civilian Police
CNRT	National Council of Timorese Resistance
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
GOAL	GOAL Ireland
GPA	Governance and Public Administration
ICRC	International Committee of the Red Cross
JICA	Japan International Cooperation Agency
ILO	International Labour Organization
INTERFET	International Force in East Timor
IOM	International Organization for Migration
NCC	National Consultative Council
OCHA	Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Assistance
OXFAM	Oxfam International
PKF	UN Peacekeeping Force
SRSG	Special Representative of the Secretary-General
TNI	Tentara Nasional Indonesia (Indonesian National Armed Forces)
UHP	UNTAET Humanitarian Pillar
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNMO	UN Military Observer
UNTAET	United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
WFP	World Food Program
WHO	World Health Organization

This issue is produced by the Office of Communication and Public Information (OCPI) in cooperation with the Donor Coordination Unit. It contains information through the third week of April 2000.

INTRODUCTION

In the six months since UNTAET was established on 25 October 1999, seventeen regulations have been issued; taxes are being collected; the Police Academy is training its first cadets; the Civil Service Commission is holding regular deliberative sessions; four thousand Timorese civil servants are on the payroll; the first trial is expected to start in late May; and more than 160 exhumations have taken place. The Interim Health Authority has been established and is coordinating health care in more than 40 clinics in the country. Some 90 per cent of the school age population that were attending primary school in August 1999 have returned to classes. Electricity has been restored to some 85 per cent of the country's pre-consultation capacity; and water has been re-established in all 13 districts of East Timor.

One of UNTAET's major priorities in the next six months is to strengthen the consultative mechanisms and the participation of East Timorese at all levels. District Advisory Councils exist and the decision was made to appoint Timorese as Deputy Administrators and Deputy Department Chiefs. UNTAET will be working towards integrating activities with the East Timorese Civil Service as it develops. Another priority area is employment. UNTAET will open Employment Service Centers in most district capitals. A World Bank project aimed at boosting the Timorese private sector has commenced and large-scale reconstruction projects are expected to start in the next couple of months. UNTAET's focus will also be on helping to launch the constitution process in East Timor. The mission will also focus on downsizing the peacekeeping force if the present security is maintained, and as CivPol is strengthened. The mission will be working with the Timorese to define benchmarks for the eventual withdrawal of UNTAET.

During the reporting period, the security situation in East Timor remained stable and under control. The incidents that occurred were more related to social and economic problems than security questions per se.

In order to further involve the Timorese people in the administration of their country, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General (SRSG), Sergio Vieira de Mello, instructed that District Advisory Councils be established with the participation of representatives of political parties, the Church, women's groups and youth.

Parallel to this is an initiative to appoint East Timorese Deputy District Administrators and Deputy Heads of Section for all departments within GPA. These appointments will be made through the newly inaugurated (24 March) Public Service Commission which has been charged with the task of selecting civil servants.

A team of nine East Timorese NGO representatives commissioned by UNTAET are undertaking an evaluation of the effectiveness of humanitarian assistance projects implemented by international aid agencies in East Timor. On the basis of two samples, Manatuto and Suai, the evaluation will be of projects that have provided shelter, health services and food assistance. The mission intends to scrutinize the effectiveness of such assistance from the recipients' point of view. The evaluation starts mid-April and a final report will be written by the end of May. It will be used by UNTAET at the Lisbon conference to be held in June.

In addition to travelling within the country, the SRSG went to Indonesia in late March to discuss bilateral cooperation between Indonesia and UNTAET. Topics discussed ranged from bilateral cooperation on border issues, education and pensions to judicial matters. The SRSG also briefed donor country Ambassadors on the situation in East Timor.

The SRSG visited Japan, China, Kuala Lumpur in April, where he reviewed UNTAET's strategy and needs for the coming months, in light of the upcoming Lisbon Donor Conference.

A UNTAET liaison office was established in Kupang to facilitate the political

reconciliation process and the return of East Timorese refugees to East Timor.

The first anniversary of the church massacre in Liquica was marked by a mass held by Bishop Carlos Belo. On 6 April 1999, members of the Besi Merah Putih militia attacked the church compound where hundreds of people had taken refuge after militia members had killed five people in the outskirts of Liquica a day earlier. Entire families hiding in the church were savaged - men, women and children - with firearms, machetes and knifes. The precise number of people killed is still uncertain although the Catholic Church has provided a list of 61 names. Eyewitness accounts place the toll at close to 200. So far, twenty-three bodies from the massacre have been exhumed.

HUMANITARIAN SITUATION

❑ *Refugee Return*

The number of returning refugees increased during the period, as well as the number of former TNI members and their families who were amongst these returnees.

The biggest group of former TNI leaders returning so far, went to Aileu. Long negotiations involving UNHCR, UNTAET, CNRT, the Church and Falintil took place beforehand to ensure their safe return. This is part of the is reconciliation program, in which returning militia members who have not committed serious crimes are going through a reintegration process in order to be accepted by their neighborhoods again. These reintegration activities include some kind of community service followed by neighborhood meetings where people decide whether to accept the returning militia member back to their community.

By late April, more than 160,000 people had returned. The majority of returns was organised by UNHCR and IOM.

According to UNHCR, some 100,000 refugees remain in West Timor camps.

An ongoing disinformation campaign in the camps has been identified as a major reason why some refugees do not feel secure in returning. UNHCR and other organizations have developed mass information material in an attempt to counteract the disinformation campaign. One recent effort is a video by the Jesuit Refugee Service highlighting positive aspects of the repatriation experience and of the general situation in East Timor.

As the 31 March deadline announced by the Government of Indonesia approached, the Jakarta authorities indicated that they would give refugees living in West Timor camps another three months to decide if they wanted to stay or return to East Timor. UNHCR also received indications that Indonesia would not cut its support to the camps.

Meanwhile, family reunion meetings which bring together Timorese living on different sides of the border between East and West Timor continue in Batugade and Oecussi. The SRSG participated in a Batugade family reunion where he met with East Timorese people living in camps in West Timor.

❑ *Food Distribution*

The food distribution campaign that targets vulnerable groups will need to be continued into 2001, according to WFP. Together with FAO, it completed a joint food and crop assessment throughout East Timor. According to initial findings, the maize harvest is likely to be lower than in previous years due to farmers returning late to their fields. This is certainly the case for the hard-hit western regions, Covalima, Bobonaro and the Ambeno (Oecussi) enclave.

The FAO-WFP assessment also notes that a few reported cases of malnutrition amongst children under 5-years-of-age are attributed to inappropriate dietary practices in rural areas, pointing to a need for educational campaigns on basic nutrition.

❑ **Shelter**

Distribution of UNHCR shelter kits is ongoing in 12 of the 13 districts, with Covalima and Bobonaro being the most recent districts where such kits have been made available.

By late April, a total of 13,000 shelter kits had arrived in East Timor. Of these kits, 7,385 had been distributed and 2,788 families who received them had completed construction of their shelters.

INFRASTRUCTURE

On 24 April the Asian Development Bank (ADB) announced the approval of a grant agreement worth nearly US$ 30 million, under the World Bank-administered Trust Fund to rebuild East Timor's infrastructure. The funds will be allocated over the next two years for roads, transport, ports and electricity repair and maintenance.

About US$ 7.5 million will go towards projects for the re-establishment of the electricity network.

Another US$ 20 million will go towards emergency road repair. These works are expected to employ some 750 people over the next twelve months. The first emergency road contracts will be let in May.

The agreement also sets aside US$ 2.2 million for reconstruction and maintenance of port facilities.

❑ *Postal Service*

The new East Timorese postal service that was inaugurated on 29 April provides mail service internationally via Darwin and nationally between Dili and Baucau. The stamps are non-denominational, but tariffs are set at US$ 0.50 (fifty cents) for international mail and US$ 0.10 (10 cents) for domestic mail service. Two hundred thousand stamps (100,000 domestic, 100,000 international) were designed and produced in Portugal. The Portuguese government also helped with the rehabilitation of buildings and with the provision of equipment and expertise, amounting to some US$ 500,000.

The Central Post Office in Dili will be open from Monday to Friday 8am to 4pm and Saturday mornings 8am to 12 noon. It will be closed on Sundays and official holidays.

❑ *Air Transport*

Qantas begins commercial flights between Dili and Darwin on 2 May. A commercial plane is operating between Dili and Oecussi at US$ 190 per round trip.

SOCIAL SERVICES

❑ *Education*

More than 147,000 children are attending primary school throughout all 13 districts.

The absence of a standard curriculum and the lack of training of schoolteachers are two major problems facing primary education.

In order to improve the technical ability of the teachers, in all the districts they have been interviewed to identify candidates for a teacher-training course that is scheduled to start early May. Thirty teachers from each of the 13 districts will participate in the two-week training session. At the end of the session, UNICEF and OXFAM will assess the outcome of the training courses.

Preparations are underway for the national teachers' test in June. The ones that succeed will become full-fledged civil servants.

The School Mapping Taskforce met with Timorese engineers who are preparing to launch the second round of school damage assessment inspections.

❑ *Health*

The East Timor Central Pharmacy Warehouse was opened in Dili on 6 April. It is the result of a joint effort by the Interim Health Authority, UNICEF and GOAL, an international NGO. The first shipment of

drugs worth US$ 670,000 was donated by a Japanese aid agency, JICA. It is the first central facility of the new East Timorese administration, and will be the central distribution point for pharmaceuticals in East Timor, acquiring about US$ 2 million worth of drugs and medical supplies each year. For the first time since the popular consultation, healthcare providers will be able to order the medicine they need in a particular district, instead of the general medicine kits that were distributed in the past.

A three year national health program was recommended by the joint health mission led by the World Bank and including representatives from AusAID, the European Commission, the Portuguese Gulbenkian Foundation and UNTAET. The program has three components: restore access to basic services, develop a health policy (regulation and legislation), and manage and implement the project activities, including repair and reconstruction of health facilities.

The program will run in three phases over three years, till 2002. The estimated cost, about US$ 40 million, will be mainly funded by the World Bank-administered Trust Fund for East Timor and the UNTAET Trust Fund.

INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

❑ *Public Administration*

The Public Service Commission (PSC) was inaugurated on 24 March. It is an independent body with the main objective of setting up a lean and efficient civil service. It oversees the functioning of the East Timorese administration by formulating policies and guidelines related to recruitment, salary scales and rights and obligations of civil servants. The Commission is composed of five Timorese and two internationals and is chaired by Mariano Lopez, the former director of radio and television in East Timor.

During its meetings so far, the PSC has recommended that future state employees have a 40-hour workweek and 12 days annual leave.

In an effort to provide information on the development of the Civil Service as well as to familiarise senior officers with key needs at the local level, a series of visits to the districts were started by the Civil Service and the Public Employment department of GPA.

The Civil Service Academy will be inaugurated on 8 May and training began for the eventual trainers on 24 April.

❑ *Border Control*

The Timorese Border Control Service will expand operations from the Dili International Airport and the Port to Batugade on 1 May. Operations are planned to begin in Salele and Oecussi next. A group of 18 East Timorese Border Service Officers completed a basic training and were deployed to the Batugade and Salele Border Control Stations. Ten Portuguese customs and immigration officers were deployed in Dili Airport and Dili Port to assist with the border control duties and training of local staff, along with the five New Zealand and six Australian customs officers who arrived earlier. Canada has donated 11 all-terrain vehicles to be used by the Border Control Service.

By late April the Border Control Service had collected US$ 400,000 worth in taxes. Tax collection started on 20 March.

A guide on importing goods into East Timor for commercial and private importers and exporters has been published and is being distributed to the public.

MEDIA DEVELOPMENT

The printing consortium project has gathered momentum. After meetings with main stakeholders (NGOs and media publishers) by-laws have been drafted. Infrastructure repairs at the printing premises have been concluded, consumables (paper, ink, etc.) ordered and an engineer brought to Dili to repair and refurbish the printing presses. Former press operators have been identified as well.

While a number of useful media training initiatives have taken place in Dili and abroad, UNTAET sponsored a consultant from the Southeast Asian Press Alliance (SEAPA) to make recommendations on media capacity-building, with full and direct input from Timorese journalists. His recommendations will also include suggestions as to the most effective ways to support the East Timor Journalists' Association.

At the request of UNTAET, and with the support of UNESCO, an ABU (Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union) mission visited East Timor to make recommendations on the future design of radio and TV in East Timor. The mission's report is expected to be particularly useful for the Independent Broadcasting Authority and the Board of the East Timor Public Broadcasting Corporation. The Broadcasting Corporation is expected to be established as a result of a regulation on broadcast media which is to be submitted to the National Consultative Council in May.

The building compound which formerly housed Radio Indonesia has been designated the future home of East Timor's public broadcaster. The building is currently used by a UN-PKF unit and is expected to be vacated by late June, when refurbishing should start.

Lospalos and Maliana will be the first two districts in East Timor to have *community radio* stations. Training of staff started in late April and the stations are expected to become operational in mid-May. The training and equipment is sponsored by UNESCO and organized by UNTAET's Office of Communication and Public Information (OCPI) and District Administrators in Lospalos and Maliana. Other districts might join this project later.

✓ ***UNTAET Communication***

Following two fatal accidents in which children were killed after finding hand grenades which exploded while they toyed with them, OCPI designed and will distribute to schools the second week of May a poster on the dangers of unexploded ordnance.

A new leaflet has been produced and distributed on the rule of law that explains the functions of the judicial system and of the Civilian Police (CivPol).

The first UNTAET video magazine – a one-hour video package with news, features, and entertainment – was distributed on 25 April to all districts. Until TV broadcast is available (as well as large screen video projectors) video magazines will be shown to the community on TV sets made available by OCPI to all District Administrators. The video magazine will be distributed weekly.

Radio UNTAET has improved its programme mix. It now includes an hour of live programming in the morning and again in the evening every day, Monday to Friday, and another two hours of pre-recorded original production each day. A news programme, in English and Tetun, is produced three times a day. Also weekly programmes are produced by groups of civil society on gender issues, rule of law, labour, youth, and public health. A new programme – on media – is expected to start during the first week of May (to coincide with World Press Freedom Day) in cooperation with the Journalists' Association.

Radio UNTAET now broadcasts live from Dili, and with programmes generated by computer from Baucau and Maliana. Improvements can and will be made in these sites to upgrade their capacity. Three new FM transmitters just arrived from the UN in Brindisi and priority sites for installation of them are Suai, Oecussi, and Ermera.

With the upgrading of Radio UNTAET Dili transmitters, it offered the only other two Timorese radio stations (Radio Falintil and Radio Kmanek) the option to use its Dili transmitters to broadcast their programmes in addition to their own regular broadcasts in which they use their own facilities.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

❑ ***Labour***

Since January, UNTAET, UN agencies, NGOs and the private sector have collectively generated some 25,000 new

jobs. To make the job search less taxing for both job applicants and potential employers, UNTAET will establish Employment Service Centers in all 13 districts. The first one will be inaugurated on 1 May in Dili.

Job seekers will be able to come to an Employment Service Center and present their work experience and qualifications, have an interview with an employment officers and let potential employers know of their availability. As well, they can find out about employment opportunities. Timorese employment officers will staff the centers. The first group of 16 officers will finish their training on 28 April.

UNTAET, the World Bank and UNDP on 1 April signed a project worth US$ 499,000 to employ some 600 people in Dili. The project will concentrate on cleaning rubble and debris from the Dili streets and is expected to last five months. A solid waste management service for Dili is to be developed as a continuation of the project.

✓ ***Quick Impact Projects (QIPs)***

By mid-April, 44 Quick Impact Projects worth US$ 497,000 had been approved under the UNTAET Trust Fund for QIPs. These projects will provide paid employment to over 1,600 people. OCHA and UNHCR have sponsored projects worth a total of some US$ 88,000. The forty-four OCHA-funded QIPs provided employment for 995 people and the five UNHCR projects gave jobs to some 130 persons.

✓ ***Transitional Employment Projects (TEPs)***

A total number of 15,000 people nation-wide are expected to gain short-term employment through Transitional Employment Projects. TEPs are USAID funded (an estimated US$ 5 million) and UNTAET designed and implemented. An MOU signed on 17 April by USAID and UNTAET provides US$ 100,000 to each district in East Timor to be used for salary payments and another US$ 94.000 in tools and necessary equipment for implementation of the projects, as well as sports equipment.

TEPs mainly fund clean-up activities such as the clean-up of the Dili swimming pool, the painting of the cathedral and general drainage and rubble clearing all over the country.

✓ ***Community Empowerment Project (CEP)***

The first batch of money from the US$ 21.5 million Community Empowerment Project under the World Bank-administered Trust Fund for East Timor was handed over to three sub-districts in Liquica district during the third week of April.

Each of the newly selected village (suco) councils identified rehabilitation projects to be financed with this money. The individual projects are worth up to some US$ 5,600 and include building roads to isolated hamlets, the reconstruction of community centers destroyed last year and the repair of water pipelines.

Immediately following disbursement of funds, the villages select one man and one woman from the suco council to represent their village at the sub-district level. This will enable them to start the second cycle of larger projects, based on competitive proposals between community groups. The sub-district councils will receive additional training to manage the funds.

Disbursements in all 13 districts are to be made by the end of September this year.

❑ ***Private Sector***

A Small and Medium Enterprises Project through the World Bank-administered Trust Fund was approved on 11 April, worth US$ 10 million over two years. This project will provide loans to Timorese businesses to help stimulate the development of the country's private sector.

The project will make loans available ranging from US$ 500 to US$ 50,000 to East Timorese with viable business plans. Business ideas from all sectors will be eligible for consideration. The loans will be facilitated and administered by the Portuguese Banco Ultramarino. Application forms are available for pick-up at District Administration Offices and can be submitted

there or at BNU offices. Loans are expected to be disbursed starting late April.

Over 1,000 businesses were registered with the UNTAET Registration Unit by late April. One hundred of those are foreign and the remainder Timorese.

❑ *Agriculture and Farming*

A joint mission led by the World Bank, USAID, Portugal, AusAID, FAO and UNTAET has examined an agriculture rehabilitation program for the next three years. The cost of this project is estimated at US$ 25 million. The program is likely to have three main components. Priority will go to the restoration of productive assets such as seeds, fertilisers, cattle and poultry. Secondly, the mission identified the need for improved irrigation systems and the rehabilitation of farm roads, village markets, storage facilities, and water tanks. Thirdly, funds are needed for technological advice and service centers to advance the development of agriculture.

Assistance for agricultural rehabilitation has come from Norway which contributed US$ 200,000 for the provision of 1,000 tons of fertiliser and project-related costs. The fertiliser will arrive in East Timor in the beginning of May and will be distributed to all districts with assistance from the WFP.

On 4 April, UNTAET started a month-long training course on animal health and animal husbandry for 21 East Timorese livestock technicians.

FAO specialists in small-scale fisheries found that efforts to rehabilitate the coastal small-scale fishing industry should concentrate on stocks of pelagic fish, as these are unlikely to be over fished in the foreseeable future by the local small-scale fishery. They identified several areas which require urgent donor funding, such as the repair of fishing boats and canoes, the establishment of ice production facilities, the provision of iceboxes and fishing gear, as well as the promotion of salting as a means to preserve fish in rural areas.

RULE OF LAW

❑ *Judiciary*

Twelve new Timorese judges and prosecutors were sworn in on 6 April by the Transitional Administrator at the District Court in Dili. Six judges, two investigating magistrates and four prosecutors, were appointed following the recommendation by the Transitional Judicial Service Commission, headed by Bishop Basilio do Nascimento.

This is the second group of Timorese judges and prosecutors appointed to East Timorese courts, with the first group of twelve appointed in January. One judge and one prosecutor are to take up their posts at the District Court in Oecussi, while the remaining ten judges and prosecutors have been appointed to the Baucau District Court. They will initially practice in Dili pending the renovations of the Baucau court building and of the detention facility there.

UNTAET Judicial Affairs department has engaged eight international judges to act as mentors to the newly appointed Timorese magistrates. The East Timorese judiciary employs Indonesian law (in so far as not inconsistent with international human rights conventions and UNTAET regulations) which is based on civil law system. The judges engaged by UNTAET are international law experts from countries with similar civil law systems.

A Memorandum of Understanding on cooperation in legal, judicial and human rights matters was concluded in the first week of April between UNTAET and Indonesia. *(See Human Rights section of this update)*

❑ *Civilian Police*

At the end of April there were over 1,100 CivPol officers deployed across East Timor. Twelve of them are policemen from Bosnia and Herzegovina who arrived 19 April. It is the first time that Serb, Croat and Bosnian police are serving together under the Bosnian flag since the war ended in that country in November 1995.

UNTAET CivPol established a Vulnerable Persons Unit to deal with crimes against women, children, the aged, and political and religious minorities. The unit is composed of two women and three male officers and has so far dealt with cases of sexual assault and domestic violence. It works closely with women groups as counselling partners. One of the initiatives undertaken by the unit is securing and maintaining safe houses for the victims of domestic violence.

East Timor Police Service

The East Timor Police Training College opened in Dili on 27 March with the first class of 50 cadets. The training at the college will take 3 months, followed by on-the-job training for 3 more months. The candidates will be trained in concepts of human rights and community policing, the basics of criminal law, police techniques, traffic rules, investigation techniques and driving skills.

The next class of recruits is to commence training in July.

The recruitment for East Timorese Police Service is an ongoing process and will take around three years to recruit 3,000 policemen.

- ***Police Assistance Group***

Thirty-seven East Timorese members of the Police Assistance Group were deployed around the territory on 17 April to work alongside CivPol officers. A further 50 former East Timorese policemen are expected to join the program sometimes in May. These members do not have powers of arrest, but are providing assistance and advise to the CivPol officers on aspects of the community structure and the local culture relevant to law and order enforcement, and intelligence on patterns of criminal behaviour. They are wearing blue UN caps and, eventually, polo shirts in UN blue with "UN Police Assistance Group" written on the back and a UN logo with "Police Assistance Group" on the left side of their chest.

- ***Penitentiary System***

In mid-April UNTAET began renovating the Becora prison facility in Dili. Peacekeeping Forces, together with UNTAET Building Management Services are doing the renovations of one section of the prison. Work will be completed by late April, after which the prison should become operational at the beginning of May. The renovations of three cellblocks and some administrative buildings should provide space for some 100 prisoners. The facility will ultimately house some 250 prisoners. Renovation of the Gleno prison facility is also near completion and should provide further prison capacity for some 120 detainees. The British Government financed these renovations.

As a follow-up to last month's mission of two New Zealand prison experts, the New Zealand government sent ten prison wardens and two managers to help operate prison facilities in East Timor and train East Timorese staff. Recruitment of Timorese prison staff has already begun.

HUMAN RIGHTS

An MOU on cooperation in legal, judicial and human rights matters between UNTAET and Indonesia was concluded on 6 April. This MOU will facilitate the efforts of the UN and Indonesia to investigate and prosecute those responsible for last year's violence in East Timor.

With this agreement, UNTAET and Indonesia pledge to make detained persons available to give evidence or assist in investigations, ensure that judicial documents are served, and carry out arrests, searches and seizures. Both parties also agree to facilitate the transfer of people from one jurisdiction to another, allow for forensic experts to participate in exhumations, ensure that representatives of the authorities can participate in legal proceedings and provide information, evidence and relevant documents.

Meanwhile, exhumations of victims of the September violence continue. By the middle of April, more than 300 bodies had been located throughout the territory, of which over 160 bodies have been exhumed by Human Rights forensic experts and CivPol. After exhumation, the bodies are brought to the Human Rights Morgue in Dili for autopsy and if identification is determined, returned to their families. Hundreds of additional exhumation sites await excavation after the end of the rainy season.

In Pasabe, alone, another twenty bodies were exhumed at the beginning of April, after the earlier exhumation of forty-six bodies and human remains in February. It is estimated that at least 75 people died during what is called the "Passabe Massacre", last September.

PEACE AND SECURITY

❑ *Security Situation*

East Timor is safe and secure, according to the assessment by UNTAET's Peacekeeping Force.

The deployment of an additional TNI battalion to the West Timor side of the border is expected to further strengthen security, with a positive impact in the border area.

In the first week of April, there was a case of border crossover by a TNI foot patrol and four cases of UNTAET helicopters crossing into West Timor air space. It was agreed by the respective commands that cases like this should be resolved on a tactical level by sector commanders. Brigadier Duncan Lewis, Commander of Sector West, which borders West Timor said that "unintentional errors in navigation can and do occur from time to time. Both the TNI and the PKF commanders understand that, and we are both implementing control regimes to minimize these possibilities."

Six children were killed in the last week of March in two tragic accidents after they found unexploded ordnance, which exploded as they played with them. UNTAET PKF considers that there is no extraordinary danger from unexploded ordnance in East Timor, but recommended that children and adolescents be made aware of the potential risks. UNTAET's Office of Communication and Public Information produced a poster to raise awareness of this problem and is also informing people as to what to do if ordnance is found. The poster will be distributed to schools across the country during May.

✓ *MOU on Border Issues*

Force Commander Lt. General Jaime de los Santos and the commander of West Timor, Major General Kiki Syahnakri, on 11 April signed a Memorandum of Understanding on border issues regarding security, boundary crossing, the passage of refugees, humanitarian assistance, and other concerns.

The document is called the Memorandum of Understanding for Tactical Coordination in the Border Area between Nusatenggara Timur (West Timor) and East Timor between the TNI and the UNTAET Military Component. It has 12 articles, and its purpose is to facilitate a close cooperation between both parties "in order to manage possible incidents and to assist in the return of the refugees."

The MOU defines a boundary, but only for the purpose of military tactical coordination; it is not an internationally recognised border between East Timor and West Timor.

According to the MOU, UN Military Observers will be stationed at the 12 agreed Junction Points and will conduct tasks as Liaison Officers. They will co-ordinate between TNI and UNTAET PKF when the parties want to have a dialogue with each other.

The MOU confirms the previous memorandum signed on 12 January between Interfet and TNI, and includes some additional matters.

Some of these new items are: the new Junction Point in Memo, district of Maliana; the fact that when TNI or UNTAET peacekeeping troops cross the boundaries, they can not carry weapons; and that the

parties will cooperate in reporting and investigating boundary incidents.

TRUST FUND UPDATE

- ***UNTAET Trust Fund***

The Swedish Minister for Development Cooperation signed an agreement on 6 April with the SRSG in Dili to add almost US$ 5 million to the UNTAET Trust Fund. This brings Sweden's total contribution to the UNTAET Trust Fund up to nearly US$ 6 million over three years from an earlier pledge of US$ 1 million at the Tokyo Conference in December 1999.

Of the total US$ 32 million pledged by donors to the UNTAET Trust Fund at the Tokyo Conference, US$ 23 million was actually contributed at the end of April.

- ***World Bank-administered Trust Fund for East Timor***

Donors pledged US$ 146.9 million to the World Bank-administered Trust Fund for East Timor.

Several donors made pledges to the Fund over three years and will make their contributions in instalments. The Fund had received as of 15 April 2000, US$ 24 million including US$ 11 million from the World Bank's own funds and US$ 13 million from donor countries such as Australia, Portugal and Japan.